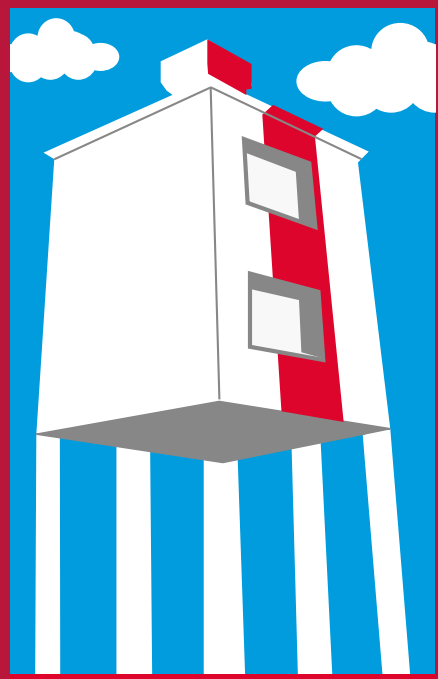




**AVON &
SOMERSET**
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER



COLERIDGE
WAY



SEDOGEMOOR

Police and Crime Plan 2014-17

**SUPPORTING YOU TO
BE SAFE AND FEEL SAFE**



Welcome to your Police and Crime Plan for Sedgemoor

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Sue Mountstevens, and Area Commander Chief Superintendent Nikki Watson have listened to the views of the people and communities from Sedgemoor.



We hope this plan reflects your concerns and priorities for tackling crime in your community. We will work with our local authority and key partners to help make Sedgemoor a safe and enjoyable place to live, work and visit.

In the past year we have had success in tackling drug crime, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and reduced burglary by 9%.

We have addressed other important issues including helping families whose members were involved in anti-social behaviour or repeat crime to address the causes of the problems and help to support them to break their cycle of offending. We want to build on these successes and continue to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour by relentlessly pursuing offenders, providing crime reduction advice and supporting victims of crime.

Due to the financial constraints that have been placed on us and other public services we have found it necessary to re-structure the Constabulary to ensure we are providing an effective service. However, we want to reassure you that this has not had an impact on the front line delivery of services.



Sedgemoor is a safe place to live. We would like it to be safer and feel safer. This plan has come from listening to local people and our communities. It is not set in stone. It will change as new priorities emerge. Please keep talking to us. We want to hear your concerns, problems and hopefully praise as we go forward.

By working together we can make a difference.



Sue Mountstevens
Sue Mountstevens
Avon and Somerset Police
and Crime Commissioner



N. Watson
Nikki Watson
Area Commander
Somerset



The Police and Crime Commissioner's commitment to you

You have a right to **BE SAFE** and **FEEL SAFE** in your community. It is my aim to ensure that this is the case and that the people of Sedgemoor have the highest level of trust and confidence in their Police, Community Safety and Criminal Justice services. My priorities are to:-

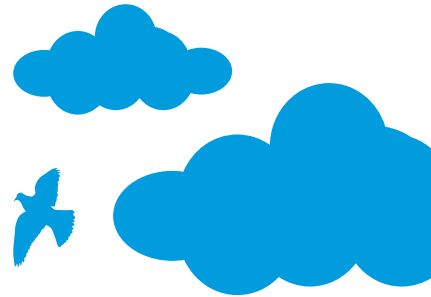
- Reduce the impact that anti-social behaviour has in our communities
- Prevent and reduce burglary and fear of burglary in your area
- Tackle domestic and sexual abuse, particularly towards women and children
- Ensure victims are at the heart of the criminal justice system

I am also committed to:

- Increasing transparency, accountability and confidence in the police
- Connecting the police with local people, particularly young people
- Working in partnership to tackle local issues of concern, such as road safety
- Early intervention and prevention
- Better co-ordination and integration of local services

Our promise to you...

- We will respond to your requests for service in an appropriate way
- You will have access to Avon & Somerset Police Services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- We will treat you professionally with fairness and respect
- We will tackle issues that matter most to you
- We will endeavour to prevent crime and protect you from criminals
- We will keep you informed and updated



Our work in

Victims: We are developing more joined up victim services that have the voice of victims at their heart

The PCC will commission local services to support victims, bringing together existing good practice and ensuring victims have access to support regardless of whether they have reported to the police. Read more on the PCC website

We continue to invest in TrackMyCrime – a modern online system that keeps victims informed in real time about how the police are progressing their case. This ground breaking service has been in use since 2010 and has set Avon and Somerset

Constabulary ahead in terms of victim care.

Our trained carpenters visit the homes of vulnerable victims of crime as part of the 'Safer Homes' scheme. The carpenters provide advice on security issues and where necessary, fit locks, bolts, chains and other security features free of charge. Positive feedback and low repeat victimisation rates indicate that the scheme continues to be effective in reducing fear and risk of victimisation.

Victims at the heart of the criminal justice system

Anti-social behaviour: We are working with partner agencies to better protect vulnerable people and tackle the issues affecting your community

In the last year, we have worked with partner agencies to obtain an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) against a persistent drinker in Bridgwater who repeatedly committed criminal damage and public order offences. The order restricts this person possessing alcohol and sets a curfew for times they are permitted in the town centre.

We have successfully obtained a Drink Banning Order against a violent and aggressive persistent offender in Burnham-on-Sea. The order bans this person from any licensed premises in the Burnham area.

We have also secured an ASBO against a person who police believed to be responsible for committing a series of commercial thefts and burglaries from staff rooms and associated areas. The order severely restricts the person, and will enable officers to deal with them robustly if they breach the terms of their order.

Building upon these successes, we will continue to make appropriate use of our tools and powers to tackle ASB in Sedgemoor.

Anti-social behaviour

your area

Burglary

Domestic and Sexual Abuse



Burglary: We are tackling the causes of burglary and improving our approach to prevention, enforcement and rehabilitation

A number of pro-active operations in the area led to the arrest of two suspects who were believed to be responsible for a series of commercial and other non-dwelling burglaries and diesel thefts in the Bridgwater and Highbridge areas. Between them, the suspects admitted to over 50 offences which had a significant impact on reducing crime.

We will continue to develop and promote initiatives such as www.immobilise.com where officers can register people's property and the use of tracking software on mobile phones and computers. These initiatives have proved successful in returning stolen property to owners and identifying offenders.

Our focus on tackling and preventing burglary in Sedgemoor has helped to achieve a 10% reduction in offences committed in the last year.

Domestic and Sexual Abuse: We are working to increase confidence amongst victims to report abuse and improve the services they receive

The PCC has allocated funding for the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service (ISVAs), which reaches out to the community and gives specialist support to reduce the risk of serious harm to adults and children. This also ensures that each of the most vulnerable survivors of sexual abuse has their own specially-trained advisor to support them.

Seven Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have recently been trained to provide advice to young people regarding their safety when on-line to prevent child exploitation. Training will be rolled out across Somerset to train further staff.

We continue to support the multi-agency Domestic Abuse Forum which brings agencies together to support and tackle domestic abuse in the area.

Local issues and partnership priorities

Family Focus Programme

We have adopted the Government's Troubled Families Programme which is referred to locally as the Family Focus Programme. This offers intensive support to families with complex needs with a view to reducing incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour, support children in getting back to school and adults getting back to work. Family health and wellbeing are important factors along with finances and rural accessibility.

We have identified just over 300 families in Somerset who are being helped by the scheme. 70 of those are on the Sydenham Estate in Bridgwater and are currently being supported by six family advocates.

The scheme is now extending to the rest of Sedgemoor, with the aim of supporting a further 105 families over the next year particularly on the Hamp Estate in Bridgwater and the Moorland Estate in Highbridge.

Road Safety

Speeding continues to be a major concern in rural areas. We have been working to set up Community Speed Watch the across all of the 16 towns and villages that span from Shipham to Pawlett. Once the training is completed in Cheddar and West Hunstpill this month, the entire area will be covered and the team are planning a CSW day of action in the Spring.

Working in Partnership

The local Policing Team in Burnham-On-Sea have joined forces with the award-winning Senior Citizen Liaison Team, (www.sclt.us) an innovative police/charity hybrid project, to offer the very highest service to the vulnerable, senior community. They have been giving themed presentations on doorstep crime at local groups and meetings of seniors. They have also introduced the Senior Siren (safety) magazine to the area and organised a network of volunteer distributors.

Working in partnership with EDF Energy, Avon and Somerset Constabulary's Hinkley Point Policing Team, supported by Bridgwater Town Centre PCSOs and local Police Cadets, delivered three road safety days at EDF Energy's information centre at Angel Place, Bridgwater, Somerset. They were raising awareness with drivers of general road safety in the area, especially along the A39 from Bridgwater to Cannington and along the C182 from Cannington to Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station, in preparation for the new build.

We have established the 'Police Pod', an outreach post at Asda, Highbridge to ensure that our help and assistance continues to reach local vulnerable people. The Pod will now be used by other agencies such as the Food bank, Housing Associations, Fire Service and Job Centre Plus as a place to meet and deliver their services to vulnerable people.

Sedgemoor District Council have led work, supported by local Police, to extend the areas covered by designated public place orders, these provide Police with additional powers to control alcohol consumption in areas where a link with anti-social behaviour and disorder is an issue.

Sue making a difference

“I continue to feel privileged to be your Police and Crime Commissioner. It is such an incredibly worthwhile job, listening and working with residents to make our communities safer.”

Sue has doubled the amount of community safety money for Somerset. This year there will be £357,000 towards cutting crime and keeping people safer.

Just some of the projects include:

- A new community restorative justice panel
- An anti-social behaviour support service
- Introducing Independent Domestic Violence Advisor service to Somerset hospitals

Commissioner’s Community Action Fund

Sue has launched the Commissioner’s Community Action Fund where you can apply for up to £5,000 for your community.

“On a daily basis I experience the extraordinary work taking place within local communities and my Community Action Fund is there to provide projects with some additional support.”

Sue Mountstevens

For example a youth project in Victoria Park, Bridgwater has received £925 to support improvements in the area.

Apply today at www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk

Sue listens to residents...



Sue has visited Hamp Recreation Centre in Bridgwater, Somerset Coast YMCA, Somerset Rural Youth Project and Chapel Allerton and many others. You can invite Sue to come and see you in your area via her website.

Sue approved a new county-wide partnership to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Somerset. The Safer Somerset Partnership brings together the Mendip and South Somerset and Taunton Deane Community Safety Partnerships, the Safer Sedgemoor Partnership and West Somerset Crime and Disorder Partnership to provide a more coordinated approach to tackling crime in the county.

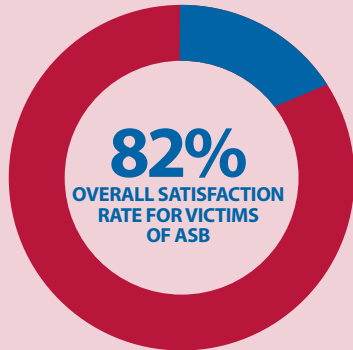
The Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service continues to support and empower victims of sexual violence

Our Drug and Alcohol Arrest Referral services are working to tackle the drivers of drug and alcohol-related crime

We continue to support the Youth Offending Team in your area in steering young people away from crime

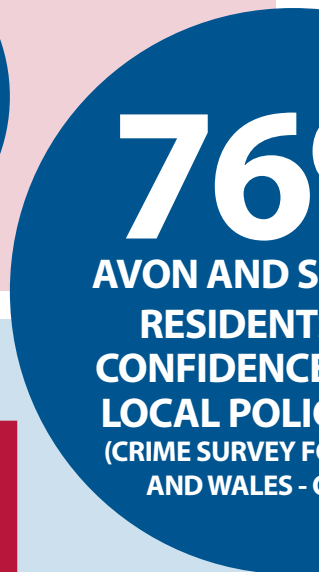
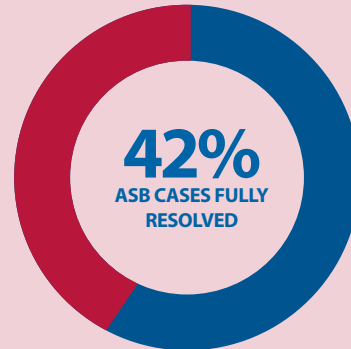


Reduce the impact of Anti-Social-Behaviour in your community



We have been working to identify key areas of our service to victims which we could improve upon and improving our communication with those affected.

Identifying hot spot areas, including those within the Night Time Economy is really helping us to focus our resources in the right way.



Preventing and reducing burglary and the fear of burglary in your area



We have been encouraging the public to register their property on www.immobilise.com

We introduced 'No Cold Calling' zones in order to reduce opportunistic doorstep criminals.



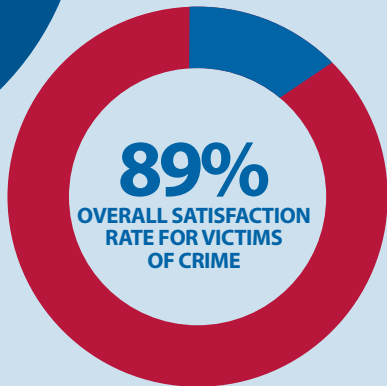
Tackling domestic and sexual abuse, particularly towards women and children

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We have visited schools and academies across the area to raise awareness about sexual offences, in particular raising the profile of the “Only Yes Means Yes” campaign.

* While the rate of detections has fallen, the number of detections has increased, reflecting increased levels of reporting.



Putting victims at the heart of the Criminal Justice System

We have introduced a ‘Safe Places’ scheme which provides a safe place for vulnerable victims to go to. Just look for the logo.

“Track my Crime” gives all victims of crime the opportunity to be updated by the police online.



How can you get involved or discuss policing concerns?



- Attend events and give us your views face-to-face
- Come along to public meetings and find out more about what we do
- Have your say through online questionnaires, consultations or web chats
- Tell us what your priorities are online through 'Have Your Say'
- Become a Special Constable, a Cadet, Custody Visitor or Volunteer
- Join Rural Watch, Neighbourhood Watch or your local Independent Advisory Group

You can find more information on any of the above and keep up-to-date with all events, meetings and news through the website:

WWW.AVONANDSOMERSET-PCC.GOV.UK

WWW.AVONANDSOMERSET.POLICE.UK

or through social media:

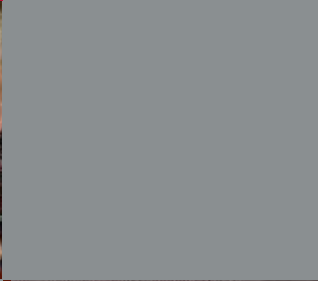


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You can find more details about the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan for the Avon and Somerset area at www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk